

Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Chris Van Hollen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Kenia Seoane Lopez, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 59, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 19 Ex.]

#### YEAS—59

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Rounds
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Blunt	Kelly	Schatz
Booker	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Leahy	Sinema
Capito	Manchin	Smith
Cardin	Markey	Stabenow
Carper	McConnell	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Tillis
Collins	Merkley	Toomey
Coons	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Warnock
Durbin	Ossoff	Warren
Feinstein	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Portman	Young
Heinrich	Reed	

#### NAYS—38

Barrasso	Fischer	Moran
Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Braun	Hagerty	Rubio
Burr	Hawley	Sasse
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Johnson	Shelby
Cramer	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tuberville
Daines	Lummis	Wicker
Ernst	Marshall	

#### NOT VOTING—3

Hoeven	Luján	Romney
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). On this vote, the yeas are 59, the nays are 38.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Kenia Seoane Lopez, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 410, Sean C. Staples, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Richard Blumenthal, Catherine Cortez Masto, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard J. Durbin, Jacky Rosen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mark Kelly, Benjamin L. Cardin, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Angus S. King, Jr., Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Chris Van Hollen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Sean C. Staples, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 55, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 20 Ex.]

#### YEAS—55

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Rounds
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Capito	Leahy	Sinema
Cardin	Markey	Smith
Carper	McConnell	Stabenow
Casey	Menendez	Tester
Collins	Merkley	Tillis
Coons	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Padilla	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	Young
Hassan	Portman	
Heinrich	Reed	

#### NAYS—38

Barrasso	Boozman	Burr
Blackburn	Braun	Cassidy

Cornyn	Hawley	Risch
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cramer	Inhofe	Sasse
Crapo	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Daines	Lankford	Shelby
Ernst	Lee	Sullivan
Fischer	Lummis	Thune
Graham	Marshall	Tuberville
Grassley	Moran	Wicker
Hagerty	Paul	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Blunt	Manchin	Warner
Hoeven	Romney	
Luján	Toomey	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 55, the nays are 38.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Sean C. Staples, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, before I begin my remarks, I have been asked to do the wrapup.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### THE GREAT EXPERIMENT

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, from the sweeping Green Mountains to the shores of the iconic Lake Champlain, one need look no further than Vermont to find the beating heart of America. To this day, communities across Vermont are welcoming refugees from around the world and most recently from war-torn Afghanistan. It is our history as a nation of immigrants that make these United States, as George Washington put it, the Great Experiment.

But with each passing moment, it seems this simple foundation of our Nation is under attack. Nationalism is on the rise and, with it, the threat that bedrock principles of our democracy are threatened. The strength of our Nation rests not in what divides us, but in what unites us. By sharpening the division, we edge toward authoritarianism, as Vermonter Haviland Smith wrote earlier this month in his column, "Rural Ruminations."

Another of our great Presidents, Abraham Lincoln, so clearly said, "A house divided cannot stand." Those words, now nearly 164 years old, are as true today as ever.